

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A plate comprising:
2 a central surface for holding food;
3 a perimeter rim which extends upward from the central surface; and
4 a lip which extends downward from the perimeter rim until the lip is substantially
5 coplanar with the central surface.
- 1 2. The plate of claim 1 wherein:
2 the lip extends downward below the central surface.
- 1 3. The plate of claim 1 further comprising:
2 at least one notch in the lip, wherein the notch extends upward to enable a user to more
3 easily pick up the plate.
- 1 4. The plate of claim 1 further comprising:
2 at least one grip formed in the lip to enable a user to more easily pick up the plate.
- 1 5. The plate of claim 1 wherein:
2 the plate is manufactured of paper.
- 1 6. The plate of claim 1 wherein:
2 the plate is manufactured of plastic.
- 1 7. The plate of claim 6 wherein:
2 the plate is manufactured of foamed plastic.
- 1 8. A disposable plate comprising:
2 a central, substantially planar surface;
3 a rounded rim which extends upward from the central, substantially planar surface; and
4 a lip which extends downward from the rounded rim until the lip is substantially coplanar
5 with the central, substantially planar surface;

6 whereby, when the disposable plate is placed on a flat surface, the lip is substantially in
7 contact with the flat surface, reducing an ability of wind to lift the disposable plate off the flat
8 surface.

1 9. The disposable plate of claim 8 wherein the disposable plate comprises paper.

1 10. The disposable plate of claim 8 wherein the disposable plate comprises plastic.

1 11. The disposable plate of claim 10 wherein the disposable plate comprises foamed plastic.

1 12. The disposable plate of claim 8 wherein:
2 the lip extends beyond the central, substantially planar surface, whereby the lip will be
3 held against the flat surface under tension of the rounded rim when food is placed on the central,
4 substantially planar surface.

1 13. The disposable plate of claim 8 further comprising:
2 at least one notch in the lip, whereby a user may lift the disposable plate away from the
3 flat surface.

1 14. The disposable plate of claim 8 further comprising:
2 at least one grip formed in the rounded rim, whereby a user may lift the disposable plate
3 away from the flat surface.